

A rare case of florid reactive periostitis of right ulna and right femur

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INTRODUCTION:

Florid reactive periostitis (FRP) is a rare benign periosteal lesion, which mostly involves the tubular bones of the extremities, for which there is no obvious cause. FRP of the long bone is especially rare.

REPORT:

This is a case of a 2 years old boy with complaints of right upper and lower limb swelling and pain following trivial fall.

Initial radiograph shows diffuse periosteal reaction of the right femur and right ulna, there is no discontinuity of the cortex of the cortices, unlike in malignancy. Histopathological examination of right ulna biopsy: FRP, no evidence of granuloma, bacteria, or fungal. In view of pain and high ESR, he was started and completed a 6 weeks course of antibiotics, and subsequently defaulted follow up due to personal issues.

We were able to trace him back 7 years later. Clinical assessment revealed varus deformity with slight mechanical limitation in pronating his right forearm, whereas his lower extremities revealed no limb length discrepancy with a full range of motion of his right hip.

Radiograph imaging shows complete regression of FRP of both right ulna and right femur.

Figure 1: Initial radiograph imaging of right radius/ulna and femur



Figures 2 & 3: Radiograph imaging of right femur and radius/ulna showing complete regression of periosteal reaction



It is important to recognize the clinical presentation and diagnostic features of reactive periostitis as a benign entity so that it is not mistaken for a more aggressive neoplasm. We reported a case of both ulna and femur that on histopathological review revealed FRP. This diagnosis was not suspected on imaging studies, but was made on open biopsy of the mass.

CONCLUSION:

We were able to observe a spontaneous complete regression with acceptable functional upper extremity motion despite our limitations in following up with him.

REFERENCES:

1. Jamshidi K, et al., Florid reactive periostitis of the long bone: A case series of seven patients, Journal of Orthopaedic Science (2016)